

The Random Jottings of Donald Jay from Nelson in Pendle.

In the small town of Accrington, nestled among the rolling hills of England, stood the imposing structure known as the Broad Oak Printing Works. Once a bustling hub of activity, it now stood silent and forgotten, a relic of a bygone era. Time had taken its toll on the old building, and the machinery that once roared with life now lay dormant, covered in a thick layer of dust.

Legend had it that the printing works was haunted, and the stories whispered among the townsfolk spoke of ghostly apparitions and eerie sounds that echoed through the abandoned halls. But it wasn't until the 1970s that the true nature of the haunting was revealed.

One fateful night, the night watchman assigned to guard the premises reported a chilling encounter. As he made his rounds, he felt a sudden drop in temperature, and a spectral presence seemed to materialize beside him. A shiver ran down his spine as an icy grip clutched his arm, sending a wave of fear coursing through his veins. With trembling hands, he managed to break free from the entity's hold and hurriedly retreated to safety.

Determined to unravel the mystery, the watchman decided to leave a tape recorder in the very room where he had experienced the paranormal encounter. He hoped that it would capture something, some evidence of the strange occurrences that plagued the printing works. Setting up the device, he pressed the record button and left it to capture the unseen.

When the watchman returned to retrieve the tape, he anxiously played it back, unsure of what he would hear. The room filled with the crackling sound of old audio equipment, and his heart skipped a beat as the voices of the past filled the air. It was as if the outdated machinery had come alive once more, with the clanking of metal and the whirring of gears resounding through the speakers.

Curiosity turned into awe as the watchman realized that nothing in the room had been activated during the recording. The machines remained motionless, covered in layers of neglect. Yet, their ghostly echoes had found their way onto the tape, defying all logical explanation.

Word of the tape spread throughout the town, and soon the Broad Oak Printing Works became a subject of fascination and intrigue. Paranormal investigators and curious onlookers flocked to the dilapidated building, eager to experience the otherworldly phenomenon for themselves.

Over time, the haunting manifestation at the printing works became a well-known local legend.

Some believed it was the ghostly remnants of workers long gone, forever trapped in the rhythmic hum of the machinery they once operated. Others speculated that the imprint of their labor had somehow transcended time, etching itself into the very fabric of the building.

As years turned into decades, the Broad Oak Printing Works remained a captivating enigma.

Visitors would stand in awe, listening to the faint whispers of the past that still lingered in the air.

The haunting served as a reminder of the once-vibrant industry that had shaped the town, and the ghostly echoes were a testament to the indomitable spirit that refused to fade away.

To this day, the Broad Oak Printing Works stands as a monument to Accrington's history, its outdated machinery a silent witness to the bygone era. The sounds of working print equipment may have ceased, but the echoes of the past continue to reverberate through the halls, ensuring that the tales of the haunting manifestation are never forgotten.

By Donald Jay